Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A method of ordering and delivering merchandise using a computer system opening virtual stores on a network, said computer system comprising: a server; a memory unit storing merchandise information, selection information about user's merchandise reception, dealer information and delivery schedule information and including an order data file for storing orders from customers; and a map information display unit for displaying a map concerning dealers, said method comprising the steps:

in said server,

accepting access to said virtual store from a user terminal connected to the server through the network;

providing merchandise information stored in said memory unit to said user terminal through the network;

accepting an order of merchandise from the user on the basis of said merchandise information and writing the accepted merchandise order in the order data file;

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reading selection information concerning the way of receiving said ordered merchandise from said memory unit to provide the read selection information to said user terminal through the network;

accepting a way of receiving merchandise selected based on said read selection information from said user terminal to write the ~~accepted~~ selected receiving way in said order data file;

determining that ~~when~~ the ~~accepted~~ selected receiving way indicates dealers capable of dealing or mediating merchandise as a delivery destination and, ~~generating~~ retrieving map information ~~concerning said dealers~~ by said map information display unit based on dealer information stored in said memory unit to provide the ~~generated~~ retrieved map information to said user terminal, said map information including a dealer of a neighborhood of the delivery destination in the region of said map on the basis of a user's address or an address input by said user;

accepting a specific dealer selected among the dealers in said provided map information from said user terminal through the network to write the accepted specified dealer in said data file; and

providing the user terminal with confirmation information including the way of receiving merchandise to the user terminal through the network based on said order information;

determining that ~~when~~ a contract of sales regarding said ordered merchandise is made and, ~~generating~~ preparing a delivery schedule on the basis of a condition of the contract by referring to information on past delivery schedules stored in said memory unit;

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determining that ~~when~~ said receiving way indicates a dealer and~~,~~ reading out

order information written in said order data file and sending a notice of a

predetermined format including information of a merchandise delivery schedule

~~information~~ based on which arrival of the ordered merchandise is informed to a sales

merchant, to a terminal of said dealer; and

monitoring whether inspection information indicating that said ordered

merchandise has arrived at said dealer is received from said dealer terminal through

a communication line in a predetermined period based on said delivery schedule.

11. (currently amended) A method of ordering and delivering merchandise

according to claim 10, comprising determining that ~~when~~ said merchandise

inspection information exists and~~,~~ monitoring whether delivery information indicating

that the merchandise has been handed over to the user at said dealer is received

from said dealer in said predetermined period through the communication line.

12. - 13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A system for ordering and delivering merchandise

using a computer system opening virtual stores on a network, said computer system

comprising: a server; a memory unit storing merchandise information, selection

information about user's merchandise ~~reception~~receiving way, dealer information

and delivery schedule information and including an order data file for storing orders

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from customers; and a map information display unit for displaying a map concerning

dealers, said server comprising:

means for accepting access to said virtual store from a user terminal

connected to the server through the network;

means for providing merchandise information stored in said memory unit to

said user terminal through the network;

means for accepting an order of merchandise from the user on the basis of

said merchandise information and writing the accepted merchandise order in the

order data file;

means for reading selection information concerning an approach of receiving

said ordered merchandise from said memory unit to provide the read selection

information to said user terminal through the network;

means for accepting an approach of receiving merchandise selected based

on said read selection information from said user terminal to write the ~~accepted~~

<u>selected</u> receiving way in said data file;

means, responsive to the accepted receiving approach indicating dealers

capable <u>of</u> dealing or mediating merchandise as a delivery destination, for

~~generating~~ <u>retrieving</u> map information ~~concerning said dealers~~ by said map

information display unit based on dealer information stored in said memory unit to

provide the ~~generated~~ <u>retrieved</u> map information to said user terminal<u>, said map</u>

<u>information including a dealer of a neighborhood of the delivery destination in the</u>

<u>region of said map on the basis of a user's address or an address input by said user</u>;

means for accepting a specific dealer selected among the dealers in said

provided map information from said user terminal through the network to write the

accepted specific dealer in said data file; and

means for providing the user terminal with confirmation information including

the way of receiving merchandise to the user terminal through the network based on

said order information;

means, responsive to establishment of a contract of sales regarding said

ordered merchandise, for ~~generating~~ preparing a delivery schedule on the basis of a

condition of the contract by referring to information on past delivery schedules stored

in said memory unit;

means, responsive to the receiving approach indicating a dealer, for reading

out order information written in said order data file and sending a notice of a

predetermined format including information of a merchandise delivery schedule

~~information~~ based on which arrival of the ordered merchandise is informed to a sales

merchant, to a terminal of said dealer; and

means for monitoring whether inspection information indicating that said

ordered merchandise has arrived at said dealer is received from said dealer terminal

through a communication line in a predetermined period based on said delivery

schedule.

15. (currently amended) A system for ordering and delivering merchandise

according to claim 14, comprising means, responsive to the presence of said

merchandise inspection information, for monitoring whether delivery information

indicating that the merchandise has been handed over to the user at said dealer is

received from said dealer in said predetermined period through the communication

line.

16. -17. (canceled)

18. (new) A method of ordering and delivering merchandise using a computer

system, said computer system comprising a server and a map information display

unit for displaying a map concerning dealers, said method comprising:

providing, in said server, merchandise information stored in a database on a

network;

accepting, in said server, an order of merchandise offered from a user who

has accessed said merchandise information on the network from a user terminal

together with user information and storing the accepted merchandise order and the

user information in a data file;

reading out, in said server, a display screen of selection information

concerning a way of receiving said ordered merchandise from said database, said

selection information including information of dealers from which reception of

ordered merchandise is available;

rendering, in said server, the user to input a selected one of said available

dealers;

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displaying, in said map information display unit, a selection display screen including the read-out information of said dealers and a selection display screen including information concerning charge payment dealer on a display unit,

determining, in said map information display unit, that selected receiving dealer information is inputted and displaying a display screen of map information on the display unit based on the map information stored in said database to provide the map information to said user terminal, said map information including merchandise receiving dealers of a neighborhood of the delivery destination in the region of said map on the basis of a user's address or an address input by said user;

accepting, in said map information display unit, a specific dealer selected among the receiving dealers in said provided map information from said user terminal to display information of said accepted specific dealer on a screen of the display unit from a map information file to provide the display screen of the specific dealer information to said user terminal;

storing, in said server, information concerning said specific dealer and charge payment dealers in the data file;

determining, in said server, that a contract of sales regarding the ordered merchandise is made and reading out order information written in said order data file and sending a notice of a predetermined format including information of a merchandise delivery schedule based on which arrival of the ordered merchandise is informed to a sales merchant, to a terminal of said specific dealer;

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preparing, in said server, a delivery schedule on the basis of a condition of the contract by referring to information on past delivery schedules stored in said database;

storing, in said server, the prepared delivery schedule in the data file;

sending, in said server, the delivery schedule to a terminal of said specific dealer from which the user is available to receive the ordered merchandise;

monitoring, in said server, whether inspection information indicating that said ordered merchandise has arrived at said dealer is received from said dealer terminal through the network in a predetermined period based on said delivery schedule; and

providing, in said map information display unit, the user terminal with the stored or input order of merchandise, user data, concerned dealer information and delivery schedule as confirmation display screen by displaying the same in the display unit to allow the user to provide confirmation information.

19. (new) A method of ordering and delivering merchandise using a computer system according to claim 18, wherein said concerned dealer information displayed in said map information display unit which has accepted selection of dealer from which the ordered merchandise is received from said user terminal is outline data including picture data of the concerned dealer, and said information provided to said user terminal as the confirmation display screen by said map information display unit includes the outline data of the concerned dealer and the information of the charge payment dealer.